

# Sermon Notes

## Power of the Word Part 3

### January 28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023

- **Week 3: Trust and Obey**
  - In Part 2 we learned that The Power of the Word comes with our obedience to it. **Matthew 7:24-27**
  - This is very true...but this is also something people have been trying to explain away since!!
    - Don't be like that! Instead love God!!
  - If you love God and let yourself be loved by God you get to live in a transformational relationship with God. **Romans 12:2**
  - However, if you don't love God you are stuck with a transactional relationship with God.
    - Trying to doing the least you can to get the benefit...but you resist along the way.
- Example: If someone loves to play hockey what will they do with their free time?
  - Skating is fun, stick handling is fun, day dreams are about the game, drills are even fun!! Etc.
  - However, if they give little effort, just trying to get by, they probably don't love hockey.
  - So, if you love God let's go ahead and live the life!! Let's walk the walk!! Let's trust and obey!!
- Let me tell you what happened when I decided to trust the Bible...
  - My process: tried to learn it, test it/prove it, realized I need to believe by faith...so I did!
  - AFTER THAT my life began to change!! Notable examples: **1 Cor 12:27, Matt 6:33, Eph 5:21-28.**
    - All of these produced noticed change in my life. My decisions were different.
- This is the **John 8:31-32** process. 4 Steps:
  - 1) Trust. Not expressly stated, but this is the start. Faith. Trust. Love for God and His ways.
  - 2) Obey. "If you hold to my teaching" means if you do it.
    - That is what makes people disciples. Not hearing and knowing you should. Actually doing!
  - 3) Know. "Then you will know the truth" comes AFTER doing. Not before.
    - Ex: what did I learn from doing **1 Cor 12:27**?
      - It was scary. Some still tried to push me out. Takes years for fruit to come. Etc.
      - They belong, so other churches are our friends. I don't own the sheep. Etc.
    - You learn and grow as you put these things into practice. Experience is a good teacher!!
    - Negative example: **Phil 4:13** and sleep. Funny and embarrassing, but I didn't do **Prov 19:3.**
      - God can do anything, but He won't do just anything we ask or want.
    - Some things I've softened on. **Matt 6:1-4.** I used to give only cash and not say anything.
      - Now I let you know my KI monthly offering is for Lake Geneva!! \$100/mo.
  - 4) Free. "and the truth will set you free." Come on!! How does this work??
    - You know the eternal ways of God, get good at them, and you get the victory!!
    - You have the best coach in the universe with the Word and the Spirit!! Trust and Obey!!
- Trust and Obey. I hope you are catching this.
  - Obedience isn't about self-justification (pride) or trying to get on God's good side (manipulation).
  - It's about learning the amazing ways of the Lord who loves you so you can get the most out of life.
  - Our religious ideas get all messed up when we try to translate the transformational truths of the love of God into transactional rules that ignore the heart of God. Relationship vs dead religion.
  - But how do we finish this??? How about **Matt 8:1-3**, the leper who came to Jesus.
    - This guy broke the religious and cultural rules.
    - Jesus didn't care. He broke the rules too by touching the leper.
    - Why did they do this?? The leper, because of hope and faith. Jesus, because of love.
      - The leper was transformed. That's how it's supposed to work.
- Get personal prayer by emailing [prayer@goodhope.ag](mailto:prayer@goodhope.ag).